

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**GOVERNOR MAPP TAKES ACTION TO SAFEGUARD THE  
TERRITORY IN ANTICIPATION OF TROPICAL STORM ERIKA**

**(August 26, 2015, St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands)** Today, Governor Kenneth E. Mapp met with VITEMA and FEMA officials in an Emergency Operations Center meeting. The National Weather Service and the US Coast Guard were able to advise the Governor and VTEMA members as to the anticipated impact of the storm. Based on the information divulged in the meeting and the swift moving storm, the decision was made to close Government operations on Thursday, August 27, 2015.

All government employees are to secure their work spaces at the close of business today. All non-essential government employees are not to report to work on Thursday. “Please take this time to secure your homes and families. If you live in low lying areas of the territory, move to higher ground, as significant rainfall is associated with Tropical Storm Erika” stated Governor Mapp in a live press conference earlier today.

###